

# The Signature

Vol. 19 No. 25

Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily

Friday, June 28, 2002

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Photo courtesy of NASSIG MWR

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## Celebrating another year of Independence

Independence Day is the annual holiday commemorating the formal adoption by the Continental Congress of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia. Although the signing of the Declaration was not completed until August, the Fourth of July holiday has been accepted as the official anniversary of the U.S. independence. The holiday was first observed in Philadelphia on July 8, 1776, at which time the Declaration of Independence was read aloud, city bells rang, and bands played. It was not declared a legal holiday however, until 1941. Early in the 20th century public concern for a "safe and sane" holiday resulted in restrictions on general use of fireworks.

DEFY VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED



Photo courtesy of DEFY

The Sigonella Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) program is looking for 30 volunteer counselors and 70 children, ages nine to 12, for the upcoming season. Interested participants will undergo screening and service members must be command sponsored. The 11-month program begins July 8, with a mandatory five-day training session for counselors. The two-week DEFY Camp begins July 22. Active duty volunteers will receive no-cost TAD orders to DEFY for a minimum of three weeks. The program is completely funded by the Department of Justice and free. After the two-week camp the DEFY team will meet monthly for a variety of activities. For more information or to sign up, contact either the camp director, SK1 Jerry Philbin x5944, or the program coordinator, UTC(SCW) Barry Bender x6880.

## Play it safe on the Fourth of July

Stephen P. Vitek, Chief Fire Inspector

Contributing writer

NASSIG residents are reminded that during 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities, firecrackers, sparklers, cherry bombs, whistler rockets, bottle rockets, etc., or any other fireworks aboard NAS Sigonella are prohibited. The Station has a licensed – professional company that will be providing a fireworks show during Freedom Fest.

If you buy and set off fireworks, use extreme caution and common sense. Numerous injuries occur every year from the mishandling of firework materials. A few safety precautions are as follows.

- ◆ Buy from a reputable dealer.
- ◆ Do not let children light their own fireworks.
- ◆ Never throw or point fireworks at another person
- ◆ Use fireworks outdoors only.
- ◆ Do not attempt to re-light a dud.
- ◆ Do not combine or tie together fireworks.
- ◆ Store in a cool dry place. Do not store where children have access.
- ◆ Have a hose or extinguisher available.
- ◆ Babies ears are very sensitive to loud noise, consider their well being.

## The ever-changing face of Sigonella

By JO1 Phil Beaufort

Contributing writer

A plume of dust hovers over Naval Air Station Sigonella, a by-product of bulldozers, oversized dump trucks and backhoes. Iron-capped teeth maul concrete structures, toppling walls and collapsing roofs. Metal-shod behemoths scrape up hill-sized mounds of wreckage, generating a symphony of screeching metal and roaring engines. But all this activity is just a prelude, this summer the entire landscape of NAS I is poised for a major transformation.

The completion of the Navy Exchange and Commissary has paved the way for the demolition of many buildings in the center of NAS I. Already the old buildings that housed the Teen Center, NEPMU 7, Self Help and the Activity Zone are long gone, as well as Adventure Unlimited's inline hockey rink, but a number of other establishments have been relocated and the old buildings slated for removal.

Many of the recently relocated establishments are in the temporary building behind the NAS I gym, but a few others are in more out-of-the-way locations. Self Help is now in the 205 housing area, Navy Marine Corps Relief Society was moved next to the Golden Anchor and the Army Vet Clinic is between NAS I Security and AFN.

The building formally known as the Home Center, and momentarily as the NEX Clearance Center, begins its transformation in to the temporary library around the second week of July. The Library move should be completed sometime in the fall.

Next on the list for removal are the old mini-mall, Commissary, NEX, video rental store and Seven Day. In order to accomplish all that destruction with out seriously inconveniencing residents an eight-foot perimeter fence, identical to the exterior fences protecting the base, will surround the construction sites. Contractors, builders and construction material will transit to the job sites with out having to pass through the main gate, eliminating a lot of possible congestion.

All this building will of course impact the Sigonella community's parking and traffic patterns. According to Chris Morell, NAS I project manager, those issues aren't going away, but since the completion of the new NEX parking lot NAS I now has 129 more parking spaces since construction began last year, bringing the total number of parking spaces on NAS I to 761. The 129 new spaces do not include the 110 parking spaces at the new ball field annex across from 205 housing, or the leased dirt parking lot across from the main gate.

Morell added that the hard part is not rebuilding the entire base it's doing so while the base is occupied. "We're trying to keep the community as up-to-date as possible on the changes as they occur, but sometimes things slip through the cracks."

A recent example was the traffic pattern changes on NAS I, many people were surprised to find they could drive in both directions when entering and exiting the base. "I had actually read an email about the changing traffic patterns but I was still surprised when I drove on base and saw arrows pointing in both directions," said ET2 Benjamin Prowell, NRTF transmitter tech. "It's actually made getting around NAS I a lot easier, even if it's a tight squeeze in places, its still easier than driving downtown Catania."

Morell said Sigonella's support has been outstanding. "Our community has been incredibly tolerant. I know how frustrating this construction can get, but everyone's been polite, understanding and more importantly, patient."

In appreciation for that patience and realizing that great ideas come from the people most effected, Morell says that if anyone has suggestions, or ideas to ease the construction woes feel free to send them directly to him at PMO.

### The proposed Recap schedule:

Temporary Buildings and Parking	Complete
Commissary – Exchange	Complete
Gate House (Final)	September 2002
Water Tank & Pump House	September 2002
Temporary Library	December 2002
North-South Road	December 2002
Pre-School & Kindergarten	March 2003
Enlisted Dining Facility	August 2003
Security/Telephone Bldg.	August 2003
Admin-Chapel-Comm Center	Summer 2004
Key & Essential Housing	Winter 2004
MWR Complex	Summer 2006



Photo by PH3 Jessica Price

Out with the old...

Inside  
this  
Edition

Birth Announcements... page 2

Navy News... page 3

Italian News... page 4

Liberty Call... page 5

AFN Lineup... page 8

Il Mercato... page 11

Italian phrase  
of the week...

Salute!



(Bless you! (for when  
someone sneezes))



SECURITY BLOTTER



Helping make the community aware

CRIME STOPPER'S HOTLINE 624-6389

June 17 - June 23

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

Traffic accidents without injuries - 8

Traffic accident with injuries - 4

Car break-ins - 0

DUI - 0

DUI's 2002 - 13

DUI's 2001 - 33

The Signature

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Direct Line

Capt. Ken Bitar, NASSIG  
Prospective Executive Officer



Buon Giorno to all Sigonellans. I would like to introduce myself to everyone. I am Capt. Ken Bitar. I will assume the duties of the base Executive Officer on July 28. Before I give you some of my background, I would like to say what a great first impression I have of this base and the Sigonella community as a whole. I have been onboard for almost a month now, keeping busy with INDOC, ICR, C-26 flight training, and the many facets and challenges of moving overseas, none of which come as a surprise to any of you who have been here a while.

I have observed unbeknownst to many, the high level of military bearing, professionalism and enthusiasm displayed by everyone. I cannot say enough about the well organized Sponsor, INDOC and ICR programs here. Craig, Debra, Andrea and Cinza did a terrific job with our class. I have met many NEX, Commissary, Library, Navy Lodge and Post Office employees who project a great attitude toward their customers. Thank you. Your professional service is very much appreciated, especially by those of us who are new to the island; seeing a friendly face makes the stresses of moving more bearable.

My last command was as the Director of the Command Leadership School in Newport, RI. As a H-46 helicopter pilot, I have been involved with logistics and support my entire career. I commanded the GUNBEARERS of HC-11 in San Diego, CA, and have proudly served aboard two LHAs. Prior to my job at Command Leadership School, I was the Air Boss aboard USS TARAWA (LHA 1).

I have deployed to the Western Pacific on several Combat Logistic Support (CLF) ships, specifically AORs and AEs. I certainly understand the Herculean effort it takes each day to support the fleet. Having been on the receiving end of the shore to ship fleet support network, I can attest to its importance and necessity to carrying out the Navy mission worldwide.

I thank you for the many sacrifices made by you and your family each day to accomplish the Sigonella mission. I look forward to working with everyone and listening to your ideas on how we can continue to support the NASSIG and Navy team. You have a terrific reputation, so let's keep the momentum going.

Farewell to Capt. Juno and Susie Jamison and their family. Thanks for a great turnover. My wife and sons are anxious to move into their new home and get settled in the community. Continue to press on, be respectful and safe. Charge Hard Sigonella!

Food prep, sanitation issues around NASSIG

By SN Michelle Watkins

Staff writer

Summer in Sicily: blinding white sand, azure water, fresh gelato dripping down your hand and, oh yeah, heat. Sicily is famous for its summer sun. For those unaccustomed to the Mediterranean sun there are few things to look out for, the most obvious being sunburns and dehydration. But what many people overlook is food preparation.

With temperatures often in the 90's it doesn't take long for food to spoil. Special handling while preparing food is doubly important. Hygiene is perhaps the most important method for avoiding food poisoning. While many industrial food handlers are required to wear sanitary gloves, research suggests that gloves aren't a requirement in order to protect yourself and your family.

According to HM1 Antonio Scott at Preventative Medicine, unless sanitary gloves are disposed of after each use, the gloves can harbor bacteria, but more importantly, spread those bacteria throughout the food handling area, leading to cross-contamination.

A bacterium doesn't just spread from hand or glove, using the same bowl to mix chicken salad and hamburger meat can result in cross-contamination. The same goes for not washing your cutting board or knives in between uses.

This also goes for ice coolers, after a day on the beach make sure to wash it out and use a disinfectant. Summer in Sicily: have fun, stay cool and be safe.

The Pulse

Health awareness and education

By Tammy Loper, Virtual Health Coach, USNH Sigonella

Health Promotion is a combination of health awareness and education, as well as related organizational, social, economic and health care interventions designed to improve or protect one's health.

The Naval Hospital Sigonella Health Promotion Department is here for you. Our mission is to integrate wellness, prevention education and health promotion into every aspect of health care, as well as the community and worksite. We serve over 9000 active duty, family members and retirees. This includes the NAS Sigonella, Souda Bay and Bahrain.

The goal of the Health Promotion Department is to improve and support military readiness, increase awareness and knowledge of risk factors leading to preventable illness, market and promote healthy lifestyles through awareness, education and intervention programs. We offer a variety of programs such as; Tobacco Cessation Classes, Tobacco "Stay Quit" Support Group, Stress Management Group, Moderate/Advance Cardio Training, Yoga Classes, Nutrition/Weight Management, Unplanned Pregnancy Prevention "(Choices). We also offer GMT's from subject matter experts in the following areas; Sports/Back Injury Prevention, Alcohol /Drug Abuse & Prevention, Stress Management & Suicide Prevention, Nutrition Education & Weight Control, Hypertension Screening Education & Control and STD/HIV Prevention.

The HP Department also supports and encourages all individuals in healthy lifestyles by promoting National monthly awareness themes such as National Breast Cancer Awareness & Prevention, National Night Out and The Great American Smoke out just to name a few. We also host an annual base-wide Health Fair, where we use a fun interactive environment to promote wellness.

As technology advances, so does our ability to bring health awareness and education to the desktop. If you need to make a lifestyle change to improve your health, the Virtual Health Coach (VHC) may be the program for you! The Health Promotion Department now offers the Virtual Health Coach (VHC). The VHC is an interactive program, it assist with addressing past barriers to change, tailors to your style of learning, creates a personalized behavior change plan and more. The VHC can be accessed by visiting Naval Hospital Sigonella's home page at [www.sig.med.navy.mil](http://www.sig.med.navy.mil).

For further information on classes, GMT's or the Virtual Health Coach, contact Tammy Loper, Health Promotion Coordinator at 624-4710 or email: [TDloper@sig.med.navy.mil](mailto:TDloper@sig.med.navy.mil)

Common access card

By SN Michelle Watkins

Staff writer

There is a new identification card in town. Military and Civilian Identification cards are changing with the advance of technology and time.

The common access card or CAC, is the new DOD mandated standard identification card for all active duty, reserve, civilian employees, eligible contractors, and foreign national employees.

CAC is based on smart card technology. It is about the same size and shape as a credit card, but with an integrated circuit chip (ICC), which can store thousands of bytes of information. It also includes bar codes and a magnetic stripe that also store information.

The new card stores medical and dental information, blood type, gender, name, benefits and privileges, digital certificates and other application specific information. It also stores social security numbers, organizational affiliations, pay grade and rank. CAC will replace the current DOD ID card, building and controlled spaces badges and passes. The new cards will allow access to computers, enable secure access to Internet sites, and encrypt e-mail. Cardholders will be able to electronically sign documents using a digital signature.

With the CAC, many paper procedures are eliminated, decreasing the amount of time spent filling out forms. E-mail messages are protected, and Internet connections are more secure.

Each cardholder has a different pin number that allows them to view accessible information. Only authorized personnel will have access to certain CAC information applications. For example, only dental information can be accessed by dental personnel. Each application is firewall protected.

The Department of the Navy's goal is to enhance mission effectiveness, increase security, save time, perform paperless transaction, route and track requests electronically, and improve quality of life. They are continuing to research new ways to improve CAC.

All service members must still have a second identification card, such as a state issued driver's license. To find out more information on common access cards go to <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/smartcard>.

Births

June 11, 2002

Marisol Lopez and Daniel Rivas

Samantha Aracely Rivas

19 ¼ inches, 6 pounds 12 ounces

KITCHEN KORNER

Souperburger Sandwiches

Bea Cook

Contributing writer

1 lb. ground beef  
1 medium onion, chopped  
1 can Cheddar Cheese Soup (Tomato Soup)  
1 tablespoon prepared mustard  
1/8-teaspoon pepper  
6 hamburger rolls

Brown beef and onion in skillet. Pour off fat. Add soup, mustard and pepper. Heat through. Serve on rolls.

S.A.F.

Dogs: 5  
Cats: 2  
Puppies: 0  
Kittens: 12



Call 624-3200 for the Stray Animal Facility if you are looking for a particular animal (ie. Breed, size, color or age).



# From the Fleet

## Bush's message on terrorism getting through

By Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen T. Rhem, USA  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — After visiting nine countries in 10 days, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld believes much of the rest of the world is listening when President Bush speaks about the risks of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction.

Washington returned to pre-dawn Washington today after a trip that took him to the United Kingdom, Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, India and Pakistan. He spoke to reporters traveling with him shortly after departing his last stop, Islamabad, Pakistan.

“President Bush’s message on the war on global terrorism and the sense of urgency that’s needed in the world because of the risk of weapons of mass destruction is clearly getting through,” Rumsfeld said. He said that during stops in NATO countries, the Persian Gulf, India and Pakistan, governments were more aware of the war on terrorism and interested in contributing to it. Regarding the tensions between India and Pakistan, Rumsfeld said it’s helpful for the leaders of the two countries to remain engaged with other world leaders.

In a press conference with Rumsfeld June 13, in Islamabad, Pakistani Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdus Sattar thanked the secretary for the assistance of his “good offices” in attempting to de-escalate the situation in the disputed Kashmir region between India and Pakistan. “It is fortunate for the people of South Asia at this time that the world community — starting from the United States, across the European Union to Russia, China and Japan — are all on the side of peace and are investing efforts for de-escalation of tension and promotion of dialogue to bring peace into our region,” Sattar said.

Later on his plane, Rumsfeld explained what he thought Sattar meant by “good offices.” “That is, I suppose, a diplomatic phrase that is distinguished from arbitration or mediation or micro-involvement,” the secretary said. “It reflects more of a friend facilitating, and I think that’s basically what the Unites States has been doing.”

Rumsfeld has said repeatedly on this trip that he was not in the region as a mediator but as a friend. The secretary refused to go into specifics about what he discussed with the leaders of India

and Pakistan, but said he believes it was a good decision to make the trip in conjunction with other diplomatic efforts undertaken recently by the Bush administration.

“We’ve got important relationships with each (country),” he said. “I think all of that process has been useful. But I don’t think you can take pieces of it. ... It is a continuum.”

## Pennsylvania group loans giant U.S. flag to Pentagon

By Megan P. Weaver  
Special to the American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — “United We Stand, United We Sew” recently loaned the Pentagon a 21-by-31-foot American flag made to honor the victims of the Sept. 11 tragedy.

Thomas McBrien, a contractor from Bucks County, Pa., got the idea for the organization when he wanted to display a giant American flag immediately after Sept. 11 but was unable to find one. He decided instead to piece together 4-by-6-inch miniature flags. “I thought why not get the community involved and create something very large that could include a wide variety of individuals,” McBrien said.

The organization brought together students, church groups, senior citizens, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. They sent interested groups and individuals 12 miniature flags and instructions for sewing them into panels for the giant flag, said McBrien’s wife, Janny.

Volunteers RoseMary Gaibler, Louisa Wismer, Bernice Gilbert and Arlene Eichlin spent more than five months sewing the panels together to finish the project. “I read about it in the local newspaper and got involved because I thought it would help the healing process,” Wismer said.

The flag is composed of 3,014 miniature flags representing each victim, 86 hand-painted flags representing countries that had victims involved in the tragedy and hand-painted flags representing the service organizations that responded in the search for victims. In the blue field are four U.S. flags that flew over the U.S. Capitol, Pennsylvania’s Capitol in Harrisburg, New York’s Capitol in Albany, and the Bucks County Courthouse.

Before delivery to the Pentagon, the flag hung first at the medical examiner’s site at Ground Zero in New York City from March 11 through May 20 and then the St. George Ferry terminal on Staten Island, N.Y., until June 14.

The flag will hang at the Pentagon from the third floor stairwell at the juncture of Corridors 3 and 4 until July 3. It will then be returned to Harrisburg for July 4.

Ralph Newton, deputy director for real estate and facilities, Washington Headquarters Services, accepted the flag on behalf of the Department of Defense. “Events and gifts like this are truly a healing gesture and really have helped in the healing, and I think will ease the burden of those who remain and instill a determination for the work ahead,” Newton said.

## Know before you go this summer

By Robert Szostek,  
USEUCOM Customs PAO

MANNHEIM, GERMANY - People moving to the States this summer should start preparing now, customs officials advise. Find new homes for the things that are banned from import and apply now for import permits on restricted items since the process can take months.

“Prohibited items include plants, flammable substances, poisons, obscene publications, destructive devices, explosives, hookah pipes, and meat and meat products such as sausage, paté and salami,” said Michael L. Burkert, Customs Program Manager for the U.S. European Command. Prescription drugs and tobacco products are not allowed in your household goods but may be carried onto the plane when you fly home. You will have to arrange to ship vehicles not made to U.S. standards through a commercial importer registered with the Department of Transportation. Mopeds and motorcycles must also meet U.S. safety and pollution standards and be free of dirt. Endangered species items such as ivory may not be shipped unless you can prove you owned them previously in the USA. Caviar may only be shipped in your household goods if you can prove it was exported legally from the country of origin. Finally, your state attorney general must approve all imports of gambling devices that must also be registered with the Justice Department in Washington.

Need more details? Get the “Highlights for Government Personnel” pamphlet from a military customs office or check out the military customs Web site at [www.hqsuseur.army.mil/opm/customs.htm](http://www.hqsuseur.army.mil/opm/customs.htm).

## DRMO Closure

DRMO will be closed July 4 and 5, in observance of Independence Day. They will reopen again July 8, at 7:30 a.m. For more information call x2642 or visit DRMO’s web page [www.drms.dla.mil](http://www.drms.dla.mil).

## New Web Site

Naval Hospital Sigonella is proud to present the Family Centered Care Website. All active duty and family members are encouraged to check out this site, especially if you are expecting a baby or have a baby up to one year old. This is a great site with links to women’s health issues as well. Just go to [www.sig.med.navy.mil](http://www.sig.med.navy.mil) and click on Family Centered Care.

## Driver Improvement Course

The next Driver Improvement Program (DIP) class is being held July 27. If you are Traffic Court appointed or if you desire to take this class please sign up as soon as possible. The class can hold 30 members and there is approximately 10 members on the sign up list already. The location of the class is TBD right now. In order to sign up for this class please contact MA2 Poole at x2776 or e-mail [poolee@nassig.sicily.navy.mil](mailto:poolee@nassig.sicily.navy.mil).

## New Check-out Procedure

PSD will no longer issue the base check-out sheet to transferring personnel. Personnel should see their departmental LCPO for their check out sheet. Commands can now monitor who receives the base check-out sheet and the dates the sheets will be issued.

## New Coverall Policy

Coveralls as well as the other military working uniforms are authorized in the new Commissary/NEX Facility as well as the NAS I Galley. Supervisors are encouraged to speak to their personnel on the proper wearing of the uniforms as well as the requirement to maintain a clean and neat military appearance at all times. Additionally, coveralls may be worn with the sleeves rolled up in accordance with the Uniform Regulations (Pages 1-134/135, 18. Coveralls (Navy), b.

## New 7 Day Hours

The hours of operation at the NAS II 7 Day Store will extend by one hour effective June 24. The new hours will be:

Mon. - Sat. 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Sun. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Limited Hospital Services

The Naval Hospital will have limited services from July 4 to 7 in observance of Independence Day. Emergency services will be available as usual. You may call the Hospital Quarterdeck for more information at x3842.

## Religious Offering Fund

Sister Franca and Sister Terenza from the Istituto Ancelle Riparatrici in San Michele di Ganzaria receive a gift of 1500 Euros from Chaplains Phil Creider and Tim Moore. The donation will assist the Sisters in their work to support young children at the center. This contribution comes from the Religious Offering Fund. Each week during worship services at NAS Sigonella, a free will offering is taken. Unlike civilian churches that need to use their collections for their upkeep and maintenance, Navy Chapels use the vast majority of their offerings for donations to charity in the name of the American military and civilian community who attend the Chapels. In 2001, more than \$47,000 was donated to local Italian and to American charities.

## INDOC Cancellation

The Base Indoctrination scheduled to begin on July 4, has been cancelled. INDOC will resume on July 11, at 7:45 a.m. in ‘Uniform of the Day’ at the NAS I theater. If you have any questions regarding INDOC contact Craig Hogarth at 624-4231.

Also, Sojourn permit application process normally held on day two of INDOC will be processed on July 3, room 203, NAS I Community Building at 2 p.m. People requiring permits are all family members of military personnel, DOD civilians, their families and DOD contractors and their families. Call SJA for more details at 624-5817/6.

# NASSIG NJROTC Cadets cruise with USS Emory S. Land

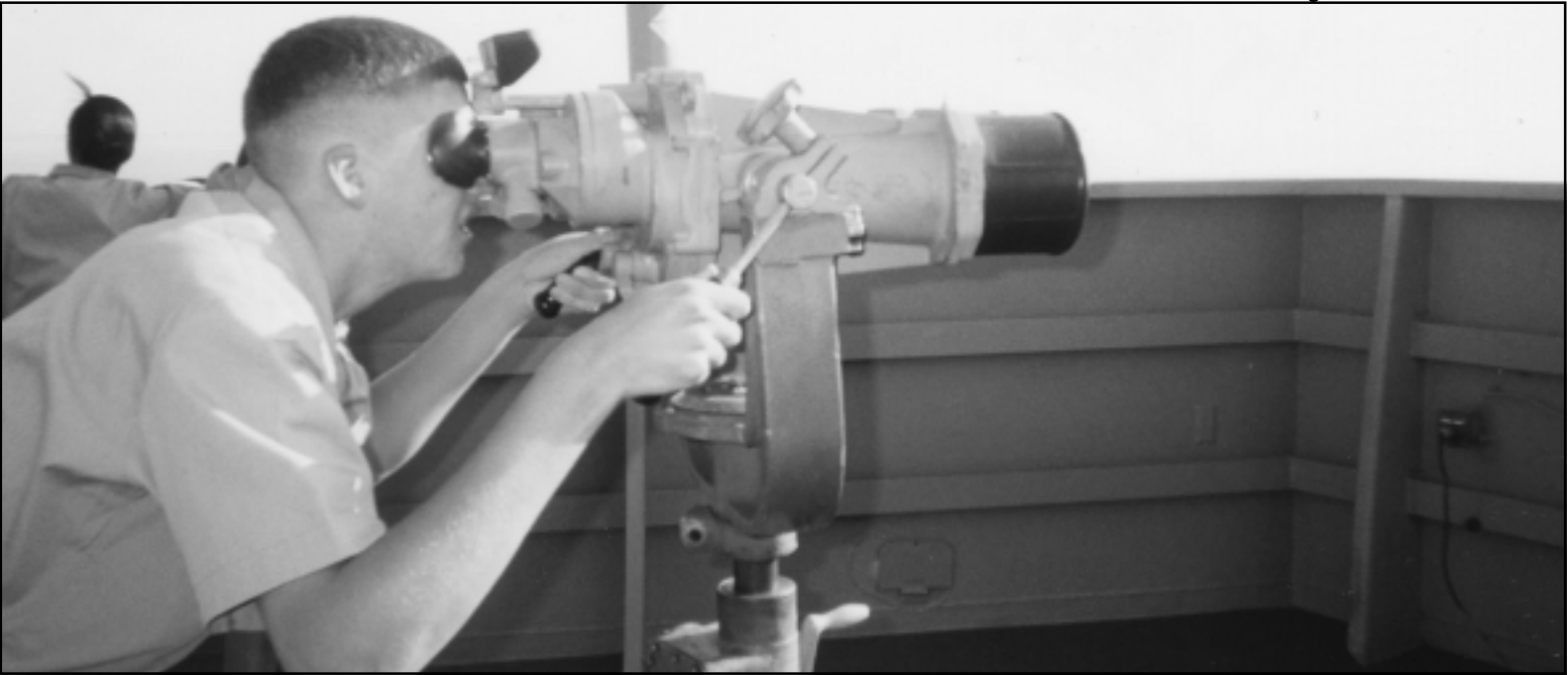


Photo by Capt. Fredrick Wilmot

## Capt. Fredrick Wilmot (ret.)

Contributing writer

Ten NJROTC cadets recently earned their Sea Cruise ribbon when they completed an orientation cruise aboard the USS Emory S. Land (AS39), one of only two Submarine Tenders remaining in the U.S. Navy. The Land’s primary mission is to serve as a “floating shipyard” in the Mediterranean, supporting subs and surface ships by making repairs and supplying them weapons. On May 29, the cadets, accompanied by Capt. Fredrick Wilmot, MSGT Anel Montero and Ms. Janet Brooker, flew to Olbia, Sardinia on a Navy C-130. There they were met by the ship’s Operations Officer and driven by bus to La Maddalena, where they were welcomed aboard the USS Emory S. Land and assigned crew’s berthing.

The next day the ship got underway for a port call in Gaeta, IT. The cadets observed the complex operations of the Deck Department and the Signal Bridge as the ship left its mooring. They later had the opportunity to tour the Engineering spaces, including the boiler room, engine room and associated spaces; the bridge or the ‘pilot house,’ the Weapons Department, the Dive Locker, the Medical and Dental Departments; and Combat Information Center, where they track surface and air targets on radar.

Although some cadets expressed concern about getting mal de mer (seasickness), they were pleasantly surprised to find that the ship was as steady as a rock! Also, they were impressed with the chow aboard ship, feasting

on steak and lobster, and even enjoying a barbeque on the “steel beach”. Once the ship moored alongside the USS LaSalle in Gaeta, the cadets went on liberty like seasoned “salts”, checking out the shops and vendors in the port town.

The following day, the cadets were bused to NSA Naples, where they caught a Navy C-9 back to Sigonella. There should be other opportunities for more cruises next year for cadets in the NJROTC unit, which recently was awarded its second “Distinguished Unit” (top 20% of all units in the NJROTC program throughout the world) Award, so if you are interested and in high school, there is still plenty of time to sign up.



By Alberto Lunetta  
Community Relations

# Italian News

## SICILIAN CULTURE AND LIFESTYLE

### Music, Drama and Cinema Festival begins in Taormina

From June 29 through August 11, Taormina will host a spectacular festival featuring a series of high quality cinema, theatre and music performances.

Three different locations in Taormina will host the shows: the magnificent ancient Greek Theater, which dates back to the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC, the Villa Comunale (Public gardens) and the Palazzo dei Congressi (Congress Palace) situated in Piazza Badia. The Fiera di Messina, a pavilion complex located in the Messina port area, will also host a musical that is also part of the festival schedule.

A Film Festival paying tribute to Sergio Leone, the world-renowned Spaghetti Western film director, will also run from July 6 through 13, at the Congress Palace.

#### Greek Theater

The Festival begins with *Pilato Sempre*, a play in Italian by Giorgio Albertazzi. It will be staged on June 29 and 30, at 9:30 p.m.

On July 6, Maestro Ennio Morricone will perform music he wrote for Sergio Leone’s Spaghetti Western movies with Clint Eastwood such as the famous trilogy including *A Fistful of Dollars*, *For A Few Dollars More*, and *The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly*. Morricone will conduct the *Roma Sinfonietta Orchestra*, which is composed of 90 orchestral instrumentalists and 100 chorus singers

Salvatore Accardo, one among the most famous Italian violinists in the world, will show his virtuosso skills playing Astor Piazzolla music with the *Orchestra Camerata Italiana* on July 16, at 9:30 p.m. Piazzolla is a world renown contemporary Argentinean tango and jazz musician and composer.

The *Compagnia Nacional de Danza Nacho Duato* will stage a spectacular Spanish ballet on July 19 and

20, at 9:30 p.m.

On July 21, at 9:30 p.m., *London Symphony Orchestra* with conductor Sir Andrew Davis and violin soloist Sarah Chang will perform Igor Stravinsky, Johannes Brahms and Sergej Prokoviev music.

Historic Scottish pop band *Simple Minds* led by Jim Kerr, will celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their successful career on July 26, at 9:30 p.m. with a dazzling concert focusing on *Cry*, the long-awaited follow-up to *Neapolis*, their 1998 last album. Among their most famous songs that have stirred thousands of fans throughout the 1980s there are: *Alive and Kicking*, *Belfast Child*, *Don’t You (Forget About Me)* and *Once Upon A Time*.

On July 28, at 9:30 p.m., Canadian jazz singer Diana Krall will present *When I Look In Your Eyes*, her sensational last album that earned Grammy Award for Best Jazz Vocal Performance in 1997. World renown conductor Damiano Giuranna will direct the *World Youth Orchestra*, violinist Daniel Strabawa, Alexander Rudin on the cello and Riccardo Guranna on the piano, July 30, at 9:30. The concert features Ludwig Van Beethoven music.

The *World Youth Orchestra* is made up of 70 young musicians ages 16 to 25 years old, the best students from the most prestigious conservatories and academies of Music in the world. This concert is part of a UNICEF project named: *Yes for Children*.

On August 1 and 2, at 9:30 p.m., Italian actor and director Giorgio Albertazzi will star as *Giulio Cesare* (Julius Caesar) in an adaptation in Italian of a Shakespeare play.

#### Palazzo dei Congressi

A series of plays in Italian will be staged at the Congress palace they include: *La Bottega del Caffè* (Coffee Shop) by German director and playwright Rainer Werner Fassbinder (July 17, 18, at 9:30 p.m.), *Venditori D’anime* (Sellers of Souls) July 27, 28, at 9:30 p.m., and *Senso* an adaptation of a movie by neo-realist film director Luchino

Visconti (Aug. 4, 5 at 9:30 p.m.). A music show celebrating Opera star tenor Enrico Caruso will be held on August, 3 at 9: 30 p.m.

#### Villa Comunale

Taormina Public Gardens will host two concerts: Italian composer Franco Battiato (July 29 and 30, at 9:30 p.m.) and Sicilian ethno-rock band *Tariqa* (July 31, at 9:30 p.m.).

#### Fiera di Messina

From July 1 through 23, the Fiera di Messina, a pavilion complex located in the Messina port area, will host *Notre Dame De Paris*, a two act musical in Italian written by Italian composer and singer Riccardo Cocciantè. The opera features Victor Hugo’s story of Quasimodo, the hunchback bell-ringer of Notre-Dame’s Cathedral in Paris, and of his tragic and impossible love for beautiful gypsy dancer Esmeralda.

#### Beer Festival in Nicolosi

From July 3 to 7, a beer festival will be held in the square before the Nicolosi pine forest. Open daily from 6:30 p.m. until 1 a.m. , the festival features German food, beer on the tap and live music.

#### Rock Festival kicks off

Some among the most prestigious Italian and International rock bands will perform in Catania during the *Barock Festival* from July 4 through 7. Piazza Dante, a magnificent Baroque square located in the historic heart of Catania, is the backdrop for the event.

On July 4, *Timoria*, an Italian band from Milan, will perform at 8:30 p.m. Five bands will open the concert. Admission is free.

*Sonic Youth*, an amazing rock band from New York will be on stage on July 5, at 9 p.m. Two Italian rock bands will open the concert for the American band. The cost of a ticket is 14 Euro.

Eight Italian rock bands will perform on July 6,

for the *Tora Tora Festival* that will kick off at 7 p.m. Tickets cost 14 Euro. *Mario Venuti*, a popular pop singer from Catania and *Matildamay* will close the festival performing on July 7, at 8:30 p.m. Admission is free. For more information and tickets call Musica and Suoni at 095-7225143.

#### B.B. King performs in Catania

The *King of the Blues* will play his trademark Gibson guitar, *Lucille*, in Catania on July 9, at the Villa Bellini (Public Gardens) at 9:30 p.m. For more information and tickets call one of the following ticket agencies: Box Office 095-7225340, Primafila 095-7151740, Promo Target 095-313895.



Photo courtesy of B.B. King Official Web Site





Week at a glance

Week at a glance

For information on community events call MWR at 624-5271.

HOROSCOPES

**ARIES:** Your family may be feeling neglected and unloved. If you've been really busy, try to schedule some time to spend with loved ones. You will drive your emotional partner crazy this week. Don't be too pushy or demanding, or you may find yourself all alone.

**TAURUS:** There could be disappointment regarding investments. Try not to push your philosophies on others. Compromising could be on the agenda this week. Avoid joint ventures and steer clear of groups that want you to contribute financial assistance.

**GEMINI:** You could find yourself having problems with coworkers and employers. You are ahead of your time, and trying to stay in one spot could be asking too much. Don't allow colleagues to stand in your way. Opportunities to make advancements through good business sense are apparent.

**CANCER:** Changes involving your domestic scene may be unpleasant. Try not to let relatives or friends cause any friction with your mate. Think about taking the time to complete unfinished domestic chores. Family outings or a quiet stroll through the park will lead to stimulating conversation and a closer bond. Take precautions while traveling; you don't have to get anywhere that fast.

**LEO:** You may find yourself changing crowds. If boredom has set in, find new and unique directions that offer interesting friendships. Set the ball in motion and be relentless until you complete the project.

**VIRGO:** Your energy will be high; however, if not channeled suitably, temper tantrums may erupt. You will have the getup and go to contribute a great deal to groups of interest. Don't let others restrict you from saying how you feel about family issues.

**LIBRA:** Raise your self esteem and your confidence if you want to get back into the mainstream again. Try making some changes to your appearance and your attitude that will reinforce just that. You need to spend some time getting to know this person all over again. Put your efforts into your work or money making ventures rather than your emotional life.

**SCORPIO:** Be sure to take time for old friends or relatives you don't get to see that often. Try not to overspend on friends or family. You're best not to get involved in joint financial ventures. You can finish projects early, which will bring you praise from superiors.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Expect to have problems with the ones you love. Lack of funds may add stress to your already uncertain situation. Concentrate on your career and on making money. Your lover will cost you dearly if you let them. Don't give them the use of your credit card.

**CAPRICORN:** Think twice before eating spicy foods; you may have problems with your stomach. You might be overly emotional when dealing with your partner. You could lose money or precious belongings if you aren't careful.

**AQUARIUS:** Romance could develop through social activities or short trips. You may want to sign up for lectures or courses that will bring you mental stimulation. Don't reveal any personal details. Dealing with foreigners will be most enlightening.

**PISCES:** Try to keep any mood swings under control; they may result in alienation. The emotional state of peers may cause a problem for you. Resist any idle chatter. The home front might be a bit rough. Tempers could be escalating and your family may be upset about any responsibilities you might be neglecting.



THE MOVIE CONNECTION



**Lilo & Stitch (Rated PG-13)**

Walt Disney Pictures' presents Lilo, a lonely Hawaiian girl who adopts a small ugly 'dog,' whom she names Stitch. Stitch would be the perfect pet if he weren't in reality a genetic experiment who has escaped from an alien planet and crash-landed on Earth. Through her love and faith, Lilo helps unlock Stitch's heart and gives him the one thing he has never hoped to have – the ability to care for someone else. With voices of Tia Carrere, David Ogden Stiers, and Zoe Caldwell.

**Minority Report (Rated PG-13)**

Using psychic technology, a judicial system set in 2054 Washington, D.C. is based on arresting and convicting killers before they commit murder. When the head of this Pre-crime unit is himself accused of the future murder of a man he has never met, he sets out to prove his innocence. Starring Tom Cruise, Colin Farrell, and Samantha Morton. Rated for Violence, brief language and some sexuality and drug content.

What is Chevy Chase's real name?  
What day was Baseball's American League established?  
Who was the first owner of a bathtub in the colony days of the US?  
What was the first hot air balloon to travel around the world non-stop named?  
Which U.S. President had the shortest term in office?

(Answers on page 7)

Best Sellers--Mind Games



Cranium  
Eye Catcher  
NogginNosh  
Quble  
Simon



They did what?

Walk this way...

*Decades of armed strife has littered Cambodia with unexploded munitions and ordnance. Authorities warn citizens not to tamper with the devices. Three friends recently spent an evening sharing drinks and exchanging insults at a local cafe in the southeastern province of Svay Rieng. Their companionable arguing continued for hours, until one man pulled out a 25-year-old unexploded anti-tank mine found in his backyard. He tossed it under the table, and the three men began playing Russian roulette, each tossing down a drink and then stamping on the mine. The other villagers fled in terror. Minutes later, the explosive detonated with a tremendous boom, killing the three men in the bar. "Their wives could not even find their flesh because the blast destroyed everything," the Rasmei Kampuchea newspaper reported.*

Off the Rack!



Kate & Leopold

This movie seemed to be a great low cast movie with the main attraction focused on five stars and a dog. Meg Ryan, Hugh Jackman, Breckin Meyer, Lee Schreiber, and Bradley Witford make up this PG-13 film (brief strong language).

Ryan, who could shed tears in a heart beat and can make her puppy-dog eyes linger for hours, plays Kate, a marketing researcher on the brink of becoming Vice President of the marketing company. From the beginning of the movie, she is in denial of the break-up with her 4-year boyfriend Stuart (Schreiber).

Stuart is the great, great grandson of the inventor and Duke of Albany, Leopold. While the Duke designed the Brooklyn Bridge and invented the elevator, his descendant Stuart spent time theorizing cracks in time, which he used to pull Leo from 1876 to the present.

From here is where the story truly begins and finally gets somewhat interesting. In the future, Leopold falls in love with his great, great grandson's ex (this is where that song "I'm my own grandpa" was started). As for Kate, she pictures Leopold as a nut case who must be friends with Stuart and dresses like Sgt. Pepper. Her brother, Charlie (Meyer), who enters the scene interruptedly, thinks that the Duke is a fellow actor, deep into the craft and a true idol. Once Kate and Leopold meet, you can easily put together this as a love story, yet no movie is complete without twists; this one just uses humor and irony. Funny though, it has been a while since I've seen a movie where Meg Ryan plays with comedy.

Written and directed by James Mangold (Heavy, Girl, Interrupted, and Copland), this movie was great in so many ways. Instead of the numerous paradoxes that are involved with time travel, Mangold chose to ignore the headaches and just tell the story. That proved to work, because even as I was starting to speak up about how the movie messed up on some of the paradoxes, I sat down and just watched. I doubt anyone can hit the paradox of time correctly, not even *Back to the Future* had it exactly right, and look how much money they made... Like I was saying, this is a romantic comedy, not a sci-fi.

By JO3 Jay Price



South Beach X-Treme Triathlon: June 22  
**Men’s (500m Swim, 2K Kayak, 2K Run)**

Champion: Rich Mckeown 37:42

Men’s Open		
1st Place	Rob Mozzarella	39:21
2nd Place	John Lydon	42:49
3rd Place	Erik Baker	44:22

Men’s Senior		
1st Place	Jim Ackerman	43:00
2nd Place	Mike Capps	46:08
3rd Place	Wally Contreras	51:54

Men’s Master		
1st Place	Mike Blount	41:59
2nd Place	Rick Doland	45:19

**Women’s (500m Swim, 1K Kayak, 2K Run)**

Champion: Angela Vargas 37:39

Women’s Open	
1st Place	Marnie Ackerman 41:27

Women’s Senior		
1st Place	Anna Mckeown	42:01
2nd Place	Kari Buchanan	43:18

Trivia Answer

1) Cornelius 2) Jan. 29, 1900 3) Benjamin Franklin 4) Bretiling  
Orbiter III 5) William Henry Harrison died after 32 days in office

Hot stuff!

Eight contestants participated in the first ever Red Cross Chili Cook-Off. Each contestant picked a theme and name for their recipe. Judges gave prizes to the best, hottest and most original name. Donations received go to help with childcare, CPR, and Emergency Response programs. The American Red Cross made \$230 during the cookoff.



Photo by SN Michelle Watkins

AFN Sigonella television schedule

CET	Friday, June 28	Saturday, June 29	Sunday, June 30	Monday, July 1	Tuesday, July 2	Wednesday, July 3	Thursday, July 4	Friday, July 5	CET
00:00	ESPN News	ESPN News	Sports cont.	Soorts cont.	ESPN News	ESPN News	ESPN News		00:00
00:30	WNBA	Movie: <i>Face/Off</i>			Movie: <i>King of the Hill</i>		MLB		00:30
01:00			Saturday Night Live	Seinfeld					01:00
01:30				Spin City					01:30
02:00									02:00
02:30			It's Showtime at the Apollo	Entertainment Tonight	Movie: <i>My Cousin Vinny</i>				02:30
03:00		Movie: <i>Wayne's World</i>		WWF Superstars					03:00
03:30			Late Friday	America's Black Forum		ESPN News	ESPN News	ESPN News	03:30
04:00				Meet the Press	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	04:00
04:30	ESPN News	Headline News	Entertainers		ABC World News	ABC World News	ABC World News	ABC World News	04:30
05:00	Headline News	ABC World News	Headline News	Headline News	ESPN News	ESPN News	Headline News	ESPN News	05:00
05:30	ABC World News	ESPN News	Hour of Power	ESPN News	NBC Nightly News	NBC Nightly News	NBC Nightly News	NBC Nightly News	05:30
06:00	ESPN News	NBC Nightly News	Creflo Dollar	Sesame Street	Sesame Street	Sesame Street	Sesame Street	A Capitol Fourth	06:00
06:30	NBC Nightly News	Dragon Tales	Coral Ridge Hour		Sagwa	Teletubbies			06:30
07:00	Sesame Street	Dora the Explorer	Christopher Closeup	Harold and the Purple Crayon	Wheel of Fortune	Wheel of Fortune	Teletubbies		07:00
07:30		Mary Kate & Ashley	Cafe Video	Wheel of Fortune	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrev	Wheel of Fortune	Wheel of Fortune	07:30
08:00	Teletubbies	The Odd Parents	Little Bear	Oprah Winfrey			Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrev	08:00
08:30	Wheel of Fortune	Jackie Chan	Reading Rainbow		Port Charles	Port Charles			08:30
09:00	Oprah Winfrey	Lizzy McGuire	Familiv Movie:	Port Charles	Guidina Light	Guidina Light	Port Charles	Port Charles	09:00
09:30	Port Charles	Junkvard Wars						Guidina Light	09:30
10:00	Guidina Light			Guiding Light	General Hospital	General Hospital	Guiding Light		10:00
10:30	General Hospital	This Old House	Cinema Secrets	General Hospital			General Hospital	General Hospital	10:30
11:00	Headline News	Motor Week	At the Movies	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	11:00
11:30	Judge Judy	Entertainment Tonight	Headline News	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	11:30
12:00	Today		Air Force News	Today	Today	Today	Today	Today	12:00
12:30		WWF Smackdown	IRL						12:30
13:00									13:00
13:30		Marv Tyler Moore Special		Winnie the Pooh	Mighty Ducks	Thunder Over Louisville 2002		Arthur	13:30
14:00	Arthur		SportsCenter	Wild Thornberries	The Weekenders		Rugrats		14:00
14:30	The Proud Family	Enterprise	WWF Superstars	Horrible Histories	In the Mix		Squigglevision	The Proud Family	14:30
15:00	7th Heaven			Brothers Gracia	Taina		Pokemon	7th Heaven	15:00
15:30		Law & Order	Andromeda	Jeopardy!	Jeopardy	Jeopardy!	Men in Black		15:30
16:00	Jeopardy!	Headline News		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Jeopardy!	Jeopardy!	16:00
16:30	Headline News	Headline News	ESPN News	ESPN News	ESPN News	ESPN News	Headline News	Headline News	16:30
17:00	CNN	Navy/Marine Corps News	Baseball Tonight	ESPN News	ESPN News	ESPN News	Headline News	CNN	17:00
17:30	Headline News	SportsCenter	MI R	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	17:30
18:00	The Simpsons	MLB		60 Minutes	Rockin for the USA	Friends	<i>Proarammina -- TBD</i>	The Simpsons	18:00
18:30	Malcolm in the Middle					Titus		Malcolm in the Middle	18:30
19:00	The Bachelor			The West Wina	Movie: <i>The Patriot</i>	Fraiser		The Bachelor	19:00
19:30						Scrubs			19:30
20:00	Alias			NYPD Blue		ER		Alias	20:00
20:30									20:30
21:00	Headline News			Headline News	Headline News	Headline News		Headline News	21:00
21:30	Tonight Show w/ Jav Leno			Tonight Show w/Jay Leno	Tonight Show w/Jay Leno	MLB		Toniaht Show w/ Jav Leno	21:30
22:00									22:00
22:30	Late Show w / Letterman			Late Show w/Letterman	Late Show w/Letterman			Late Show w / Letterman	22:30
23:00									23:00
23:30				ESPN News	ESPN News				23:30

